



# The WORD

June 2025

**Dear St. Timothy's Family,**

Here is a seemingly uncontroversial statement:

"People like to go to church... when they like to go to church."

Another one:

"People like to go to church at a service... where they can understand the language."

I share both of those statements in anticipation of our **Bishop's Visit this coming Saturday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 7 pm**. The Bishop will be here to administer the sacramental rites of confirmation, reception and reaffirmation. This will be St. Timothy's principal service of that weekend as we will have no 10 AM service on June 8<sup>th</sup> (although we will have an 8 am service.) The service will be livestreamed, but I do urge you to attend in person, to wear red for the Feast of the Pentecost (Eve), and to support those whom the Bishop is confirming, receiving and reaffirming. This service will be bilingual, it will be preceded by a fellowship meal prior to (at 5:30 pm), and will be followed by coffee and dessert (around 8:30 pm).



The preceding paragraph speaks to the complexity of the weekend, and it is thus an example of what I sometimes refer to sometimes as an "all hands on deck" type of event at St. Timothy's. The amount of preparation for the Bishop's visit is considerable and so I invite you to pitch in when/wherever you can.

But to return to my opening statement(s): Why Saturday? And why no Sunday 10 am? And then why though still a Sunday 8 am? Your Vestry and I started to discuss the Bishop's visit last year when the visitation schedule was announced. When our date was revealed to be Pentecost, there was quickly a sense that, as a way of highlighting the diversity of language (See Acts 2.1-21) at St. Timothy's, we should indeed consider having the service on Saturday when our Spanish-speaking members worship. This was a bold and, dare I say, historic decision as these types of services (large ones where we want the entire congregation to gather) generally get scheduled on the date and time of the largest service (which for St. Tim's is, like most churches, the later service on Sunday morning.) I recognize that, for many, it will be an adjustment to attend an evening service not on a Sunday. Know how grateful I am for your flexibility.

The decision was made in order to highlight our Latino brothers and sisters, both within our congregation and to the Diocese as a whole. The idea was to emphasize that they are a fundamental part of who we are as a parish and that, despite smaller numbers and intense political pressures during this calendar year, the

7 pm service continues to worship God faithfully and thrive in these trying times.

The decision to cancel the 10 am service was made both in order to reorient the resources there (music, lectors, fellowship, etc.) to the 7 pm service AND to encourage people to come on Pentecost Eve. The decision to keep the 8 am was made because that service so often gets cancelled in these sorts of situations. It was also done to provide an opportunity for those whom it is impossible to worship on Saturday to have a service that they can go to.

Perhaps this explanation is overdone but I share the decision process at length to be as transparent as possible and to double-down on our identity as “One St. Timothy’s.”

I want to say something about the “historic” nature of this service. On June 7<sup>th</sup>, we plan to have 14 Youth Confirmands (ages 12-18) and 18 Adult Confirmands (ages 37-71!) We plan to have 8 Receptions - that is, folks who were confirmed in another denomination but now wish to be received into the Episcopal Church. The total number thus of those being either received or confirmed in **2025** is **40** individuals.<sup>1</sup> The previous highest total at St. Timothy’s Episcopal Church in Herndon, Virginia for a Bishop’s Visit was **38** individuals in the Year of our Lord **1981**. Granted, back at that time, there were yearly visits (rather than every other year as we do now) and that we did not do Youth Confirmation two years ago which created a bit of a backlog. Still, what a remarkable testament to the vitality of this congregation, to the work of the Holy Spirit moving through the parish, and to what God holds for the future of this church.

Finally, that number (40) does not count the **9** individuals who are receiving the rite of reaffirmation on this coming Saturday. That group of nine consists entirely of our Saturday night Spanish-speaking members. They are the “core” of that remarkable group. In the short history of the Latino Ministry at St. Tim’s (only a decade plus), they have founded and sustained this remarkable expression of God’s kingdom here. They have done so with eight or so different clergy in leadership roles, with different service times, and with having to weather difficult political environments. Still they have shown up, have come to church, have worshipped and are now such a vital part of the overall parish.

I invite you to show up for them, and for all of our church, this Saturday for the Bishop’s visit.

Yours in Christ,

CHARLES+

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<sup>1</sup> That total includes 4 of our members who will receive Confirmation/ Reception at St. David’s Episcopal Church in Ashburn, VA the Sunday prior to our Bishop’s visit.

*Below is a letter from the Reverend Franklin Morales written to a number of the faith communities that he has served over the last few years. I share it with his permission. ~ CRC+*

Dear friends and Church family,

May 2025

As many of you know, the recent immigration policies adopted by this Administration have placed my family in a group that has to leave by September of this year.

It has been hard to pick ourselves up these past months but thank God for your prayers and presence; we have done much better. We have made a plan that will keep each of us safe, together, and able to continue doing our ministries in some way.

Amidst the chaos we all face, God is showing us some ministry options in Canada, but we need to leave to pursue these options.

Now, we must pack up eight years and a few suitcases to leave. Because our passports are expired, we must go to Colombia to renew them. Our thoughts were to stay there (Colombia) since it is a safer place for us as a family and because the Colombian government allows us to get there with our documents expired.

Sadly, we learned that even though we can get in, the Colombian government just permits us to stay one week to start the renewal process and then go to Venezuela. In fact, they can receive us only if we have a flight ticket to the border that has to be shown before leaving the US. That said, we must go to Venezuela to renew our passports.

On behalf of my family (Jenny and Sarah), I want to express our deepest gratitude for the help you have given us. We are truly thankful for the opportunity to serve among you on different levels.

We are proud of what we have built together over these past years, and we will hold you dearly in our hearts and prayers. We hope to come back as soon as all this is gone.

Again, thank you for your help and prayers.

The Rev. Franklin Morales

## **St. Timothy's Pre-School 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday Bash: A Huge Success!**

What a fabulous Birthday Bash to celebrate St. Timothy's Pre-School turning 50! The weather was delightful, and we had a full house all afternoon.

For those who like ceremonies, we had a program in the sanctuary that featured the following:

- Songs performed by current and alumni preschool students
- Accolades given by Keven LeBlanc, Mayor of Herndon
- A Virginia Senate Letter of Commendation presented to St. Timothy's Episcopal Church Pre-School by Jennifer Boysko, state Senator (and a member of St. Timothy's)
- Reflections from the Rev'd Dr. Ralph Bayfield, founding Rector of St. Timothy's Pre-School and Honorary Co-Chair of the Birthday Bash; Mary Munch, the first Director of St. Timothy's Pre-School; and Helen Guest, the longest-serving Director of St. Timothy's Pre-School (38 years as Director) and Honorary Co-Chair of the Birthday Bash.





In Henry Hall, we had a historical retrospective with 50 years' worth of class pictures, a slide show, and a "What I love about St. Tim's" interactive art installation where visitors could write or draw a picture representing their favorite part of the preschool. Throughout the building and grounds were myriad activities for young and old: face painting, food trucks, a petting zoo, three different inflatables, bead crafts, and of course, cake. It was a phenomenal anniversary/birthday celebration for the school!



This event could not have happened without the help of an army of volunteers. Special thanks to our planning committee: Betsy Bosworth (permits, coordination with church members), Emily Chappell (vendors, signs, interactive art installation, crafts), Jessica Hohman (communications, volunteer coordination, sponsorships, advertising, book giveaway), Sharon Nachman (publicity, logistics), and Charles Cowherd (advice, publicity). Additionally, thank you to Johanna Smith (leading children's song performance, face paint line management); Andy Hamm (sound system); Donna McGrath (slide show creation), Tom Davis (livestreaming presentations in Henry Hall), Paige Williamson (photography), Carolyn Hamm and Lael Lyons (welcome stations); Maria LaWalt (cake table); Boy Scout Troop 159 (parking); Men of St. Timothys (set up and clean up) – including Bob Kimmel, Ethan Kimmel, Eric Barr, Rick Wilson, Duane Hartge, and Tom Bosworth. There are so many more volunteers to thank: church members – including Matt and Alex Schumann, Jack Hauslein, Kristie Rudoph, John McGrath, Chris and Max Masters, Mary Hartge, and Jim Showalter; preschool parents – including Bindhiya and Neha; and teachers – including Miss Joyce, Miss Karen, and Miss Alexis. There are undoubtedly others whose names have escaped this list but have not escaped our gratitude. The St. Timothy's community, particularly the members of this church, stepped up to make this event spectacular! Thank you all!!!

A huge thank you also goes to the event sponsors: Moo Thru, St. Timothy's Pre-School Board, the Nachman Family, Sir. Dr. Dave & Lady Emilia Mbonu, Ted and Chrissa Mankin, John Dye, St. Timothy's Service Ministry, and the Sinclair family. And thank you to the many, many individuals who made individual financial donations. We are extremely grateful for your support!

It was an awesome celebration! Let's do it again when the school turns 75 in 2050.

*Respectfully submitted by Allyson Showalter*





## **News from St. Mathieu's Episcopal School in Chapoteau, Haiti**

In May we were pleased to inform the St. Timothy's congregation that the 2025 Agape to raise funds for our school in Haiti was extremely successful! We went from worrying that we might not be able to support the school for another year, to joyously notifying Pr. Kesner Gracia, head of the Partnership Program and Priest-in-Charge for St. Mathieu's, that teachers' salaries were fully funded! We were able to send the first of two large funding increments by wire transfer in March. He responded by telling us how timely our financial support was, as teachers and residents of Chapoteau are now housing refugees fleeing from Port-au-Prince and other larger population centers near the capital. Unfortunately, this tragic situation continues, and we know that St. Mathieu's school is taking on extra students so that re-located children do not miss a full year of school.

You might wonder how we find out what is happening in Haiti, when we are not able to visit, or have consistent communication with our school leadership. We are fortunate that Canon Serena Evans Beeks, the US Coordinator for Haiti Episcopal School Partnerships, shares frequent updates with a large distribution of state-side churches, clergy, and individuals with a vested interest in the situation in Haiti. Charles and Carolyn Hamm each receive this broadcast and share information with others, including the Vestry.

In addition, a new organization has formed, the Haiti Advisory Ministry (HAM) with representatives from the Dioceses of Washington (DC) and Virginia. This group meets monthly via Zoom, with the following Mission Statement:

*Consistent with our baptismal vows, Haiti Advisory Ministry supports diocesan parishes and schools within The Episcopal Diocese of Washington and the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia in their efforts to assist the Haitian people. Member laity, deacons, and priests provide information to parish, diocesan, and governmental agencies at large, support existing networks who engage in relief work in Haiti, guide parishes and schools to establish new sustainable and impactful partnerships, and advocate for meaningful change in response to the 82nd General Convention's Amended D060 and D070. (December 2024).*

St. Timothy's is participating and already finding great value in sharing our experience and knowledge as well as developing relationships with the other dozen (and growing) member churches.

If you are interested in supporting our work in Haiti, please write to [HaitiMinistry@saint-timothys.org](mailto:HaitiMinistry@saint-timothys.org) or speak with Charles, Carolyn Hamm, or Paige Williamson.

*Respectfully submitted by Carolyn Hamm*



## News from the Service Ministry

### Lenten Outreach

A follow-up on the Lenten Outreach project of collecting sports equipment. All collected items have gotten a new home. Wanda Rixon delivered the soccer balls and equipment to Justice High School, a Fairfax County public school. The school is starting up a soccer program and they were excited to receive the equipment. In addition, Ted Mankin and Tom Bosworth delivered baseball equipment, basketballs, footballs, and lacrosse equipment to the Herndon Optimist Club. They were surprised at the quantity of sports equipment collected and look forward to getting the items to local athletes.

### LINK Spring Food Drive

The Spring LINK Food Drive was a big success. When you walked into the Narthex the past few weeks you saw the generosity of St. Timothy's as we collected over 90 bags of items needed by the food pantry. We requested produce for the first time, and we collected many potatoes, onions, apples, oranges, and other produce items. All the food has been delivered to LINK and has started to be delivered to our neighbors in Herndon and Sterling. We cannot thank you enough for all your support for LINK. The Summer LINK food drive will be held in July. Stay tuned for exact dates and details. Below is a picture of about one-third of the food collected during the Spring drive.

### Coming Events



- The Service Ministry will work with Vacation Bible School participants to assemble fifty bedtime snack packs for children who are resident of Cornerstones homeless shelter. The Ministry will provide snacks. The students, with the help of VBS counselors, will assemble the packs. Thanks to our younger congregants for learning the importance of *“putting their faith to work,”* and for making sure that no child goes to bed hungry!



- July is time for our annual Backpack Drive for Cornerstones. This year we will take a slightly different approach as we commit to providing backpacks and school supplies for 33 second grade students. This might sound like a big job, but the Service Ministry knows that St. Timothy's is up to the challenge! Supplies will include the usual: pencils, crayons, markers, scissors, etc., all neatly packed in a backpack and ready for the first day of school. Stay tuned to the eNews for announcements in late June and July to see how you can help.

*Respectfully submitted by Tom Bosworth*

### **When Things Go Wrong**

Sometimes when everything goes wrong,  
When days are short and nights are long,  
When wash-day brings the dullest sky  
That not a single thing will dry,  
And when the kitchen chimney smokes,  
And when there's naught so queer as "folks",  
When friends deplore my faded youth,  
And when the baby cuts a tooth  
While John, the baby last but one  
Clings round my skirts till day is done,  
And fat, good-tempered Jane is glum,  
And butcher's man forgets to come,  
Sometimes I say on days like these;  
I get a sudden gleam of bliss.  
Not on some sunny day of ease,  
He'll come, but not on a day like this.

- Fay Inchfawn

*Respectfully submitted by Jill Cox*

## Vestry 2025



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#### Service Times

Saturday:	7 pm	Spanish Service/Rite II
Sunday:	8 am	Rite I (English)
Sunday:	10 am	Rite II (English)
		Also available via Zoom
		(Livestream on YouTube/ Facebook/Website)

Please check the website for up-to-date  
information about opportunities to worship

#### **Welcome New Members**

To transfer your membership to St. Timothy's or to  
find out if you are a registered member, contact the  
church office ([office@saint-timothys.org](mailto:office@saint-timothys.org)) or fill out  
the Parishioner Information Form.

#### **Editor of The Word**

Ron Boggio  
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**Submission deadline for the**

**July 2025 issue:**

**Wednesday, June 25th**

If we do not have an email address for you and your  
family, or if your email has changed, send the  
information to [office@saint-timothys.org](mailto:office@saint-timothys.org).

*The Word* is published monthly and emailed to  
members and friends the first week of the month. It  
also appears on the website. If you wish to receive  
a copy by mail, please notify the church office  
([office@saint-timothys.org](mailto:office@saint-timothys.org)). Copies of *The Word*  
are also available in the office.

#### **Rector**

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#### **Parish Administrator**

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#### **Bookkeeper**

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#### **St. Timothy's Pre-School Director**

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